

FEB 02 2007Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 - 12 are presently pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 3 - 5, 7 - 9 have been amended to make the language of those claims even more clear. As it is believed that the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form, the claims have not been amended to overcome the references.

Applicants note that the Office Action does not cite any prior art against claims 3 - 12. 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(b) requires an Examiner's action to be **complete** as to all matters. See also, MPEP § 707.07. As such, in view the Examiner's failure to cite any prior art against Applicants' claims 3 - 12, Applicants assume that those claims have been found to be patentable over the prior art.

In item 4 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 3 - 12 were rejected as allegedly being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

More specifically, it was alleged in item 5 of the Office Action that there was insufficient antecedent basis in claim 3 for "the LED displays" in line 11, "the memory numbers of the preset memory" in lines 11 - 12 and the "LEDs displaying the

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kV value and mAs value" in line 14. It is believed that the amendments to claim 3 address the issues raised in item 5 of the Office Action.

Further, in item 6 of the Office Action, it was alleged that there was insufficient antecedent basis in claim 4 for "the memory numbers of the preset memory" in lines 12 - 13, "the LED's" in lines 13 - 14, "the LEDs displaying the kV value and mAs value" in line 15 and "the LED display" in lines 30 - 31. It is believed that the amendments to claim 4 address the issues raised in item 6 of the Office Action.

Further, in item 7 of the Office Action, it was alleged that there was insufficient antecedent basis in claim 7 for "the standby button of the two-step switch" in line 4, and "the collimator" in line 7. It is believed that the amendments to claim 7 address the issues raised in item 7 of the Office Action.

Further, in item 8 of the Office Action, it was alleged that there was insufficient antecedent basis for "the filament" in line 5. It is believed that the amendments to claim 9 address the issues raised in item 8 of the Office Action.

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Further, claims 5, 6, 8 and 10 - 12 were rejected based on their dependency on the above rejected claims. It is believed that the amendments made to those claims also cures the rejection of claims 5, 6, 8 and 10 - 12 in item 9 of the Office Action.

In item 10 of the Office Action, claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for allegedly failing to disclose the invention. More particularly, it was indicated that it was not understood what is meant by "the collimator is turned on" and "an X-ray unit execution is performed".

Applicants have amended claim 7, and believe that the phrase "operating the portable X-ray unit", now present in claim 7, makes that portion of the claim clear. Additionally, Applicants have amended claim 7 to further clarify what happens when the collimator is turned on. If that claim is still believed by the examiner to be unclear, Applicants respectfully request clarification. More particularly, Applicants believe that a person of skill in the art would understand the turning on of a collimator to relate to energizing that collimator.

In item 11 of the Office Action, claims 3 - 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because it was allegedly not understood what was meant by "the memory number

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of the preset memory". Applicants' have amended the claims to make it even more clear what is meant by the "preset memory". Additionally, the specification of the instant application makes additionally makes the meaning of "preset memory" clear. For example, page 4 of the originally filed application, lines 4 - 7, state:

When the remote control mode is performed, the **LEDs displaying the storing number of the preset memory** are sequentially turned on and off. The LEDs displaying the **kV and mAs values stored in each memory** are sequentially blinked and continuously scrolled.
[emphasis added by Applicants]

Further, page 4 of the originally filed application, lines 11 - 12 state:

The just earlier data is stored and displayed as the values of all preset memories.

Such explanations are believed to address the questions raised in item 11 of the Office Action. As such, it is believed that the meaning of "preset memory" in claim 3 - 12 is clear and definite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Further, in item 12 of the Office Action claims 3 - 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for allegedly failing to disclose applicants invention, in particular, relating to the LED which displays the memory number. Applicants believe that the present amendments to the claims

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address and/or render moot, the rejections of item 12 of the Office Action. Applicants' note that Fig. 1 of the drawings show two displays (presently unlabeled) on the portable X-ray unit 100, proximal to the handle. Applicants' additionally note that Fig. 3 shows, among other things, that the Kv, mAs values are displayed ("Kv, mAs value LEDs are displayed"; "displaying Kv, mAs values stored [sic] in selected memory number"; and "storing number LED display of preset memory"). Other figures additionally recite Applicants' presently claimed display of certain values. For example, Fig. 5 of the instant application ("Desired mAs is displayed on LED"). As such, it is believed that Applicants' claim limitations are properly set forth in the specification and drawings, and that Applicants' claims 3 - 12 meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

It is accordingly believed that Applicants' claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Further, in item 13 of the Office Action, Applicants' drawings were objected to, as allegedly not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. More particularly, it was alleged in item 13 of the Office Action that the "remote controller of claim 2, the "LED displays" displaying the memory number, the "LEDs" displaying the kV value and mAs

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value, "collimator", "lamp timer, "laser pointer" and "the filament" must be shown in the drawings. Applicants respectfully disagree with the statement that the above elements are not shown in the drawings.

More particularly, with regard to the "remote controller", page 7 of the originally filed application, lines 4 - 9, state:

Figure 1 is a view illustrating the construction of the portable X-ray unit 100 according to the present invention, and **Figure 2 is a perspective view of the remote control handswitch 2 of the portable X-ray unit 100 of Figure 1.** A two-step switch 4 is installed on an upper side and is formed of a standby button 6 and an execution button 8 for achieving a multifunction operation based on a click operation. [emphasis added by Applicants]

As such, the "remote controller" of claim 2 is shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the instant application.

With regard to the "LED displays" and "LEDs", Applicants' believe that the amendments to the claims render this objection moot. Further, as discussed above, displays are shown (but not presently labeled) in Fig. 1. Further, as discussed above, in connection with item 12 of the Office Action, **at the very least, figures 2 and 3 show Applicants' claimed displaying of the preset memory number, the kV value and the mAs value** ("Kv, mAs value LEDs are displayed";

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"displaying Kv, mAs values stired [sic] in selected memory number"; and "storing number LED display of preset memory"). As such, the steps relating to "displaying", as presently claimed by Applicants, is believed to be shown in at least figures 2 and 3 of the instant application.

Similarly, it is believed that the "collimator", "lamp timer", "laser pointer" and "the filament", recited in the claims, are also shown in the drawings. For example, the turning on and off of the **collimator**, of Applicants' claims, is shown in Figs. 6 and 8 of the instant application (i.e., "Collimator is turned on"; "Lighting of collimator is automatically turned off"; and "Collimator is turned off").

The "**lamp timer**" of Applicants' claims 7 and 8 is additionally shown in Figs. 6 and 7 of the instant application (i.e., lamp timer execution "In 30 seconds").

The **steps** relating to the "**laser pointer**", recited in Applicants' claim 8, are shown in Fig. 7 of the instant application ("laser pointer is turned on" and "lighting of laser pointer is automatically turned off").

Further, the **steps** relating to a "**filament**", recited in Applicants' claim 9 are shown in figure 8 of the instant .

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application ("Heating filament" and "Heating filament 0.8 seconds of idle time").

As such, it is believed that all limitations of Applicants' amended claims are properly shown in the drawings.

Further, in item 15 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,704,506 to Sasagawa ("SASAGAWA").

Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejections, as applied to the amended claim 1.

More particularly, Applicants' have amended claim 1 to even more clearly incorporate into the body of claim 1, the "x-ray unit" recited in the preamble of claim 1. More particularly, Applicants' amended claim recites, among other limitations:

a multi-function operation being performed with the portable x-ray unit based on a click operation of the two-step switch. [emphasis added by Applicants]

As such, Applicants' claim 1 now requires, among other limitations, that the multi-function operation must be performed with the portable x-ray unit. Thus, Applicants' two-step switch structurally requires the operation of a

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portable x-ray unit, and does not merely recite "an intended use limitation", as alleged on page 6 of the Office Action.

The **SASAGAWA** reference neither teaches, nor suggests, among other limitations of Applicants' claim 1, performing a multi-function operation with a portable x-ray unit, based on a click operation of a two-step switch.

More particularly, the **SASAGAWA** reference discloses an illuminant-equipped camera. The camera of **SASAGAWA**, captures images using **visible light**, and not x-rays. This can be seen for example, in col. 4 of **SASAGAWA**, lines 28 - 55, which state:

To describe the photographic functions of the camera 10, a light having passed the image pickup lens 12 is brought to incidence on a CCD solid imaging element (hereinafter abbreviated to CCD) 40. On the light receiving face of the CCD 40, many photosensors are arranged two-dimensionally, and is provided with the Bayer format of some other prescribed color filter arrangement structure. Instead of the CCD 40, a CMOS image sensor or some other image pickup device may be used as well.

The optical image of the object formed on the light receiving face of the CCD 40 via the image pickup lens 12 is converted into [sic] is converted by each photosensor into signal charges in a quantity matching the incident luminous energy. The signal charges accumulated in the photosensors are read into a shift register in response to a read gate pulse applied from a CCD driver 41, and successively read out in response to a register transfer pulse as voltage signals, each matching a signal charge. [emphasis added by Applicants]

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As such, it is clear from the disclosure of **SASAGAWA**, that **SASAGAWA** neither teaches, nor suggests, among other limitations of Applicants' claim 1, **performing a multi-function operation with the portable x-ray unit based on a click operation of the two step switch**. As such, Applicants' claims 1 and 2 are believed to be patentable over the **SASAGAWA** reference.

Applicants again note that the Office Action does not cite any prior art against claims 3 - 12, and thus, Applicants believe that claims 3 - 12 are patentable over the prior art. Additionally, as shown above, Applicants' amended claim 1 is additionally patentable over the prior art.

It is accordingly believed that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, teach or suggest the features of claims 1, 3, 4 and 7. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 7 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claims 1, 4 and 7.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 - 12 are solicited.

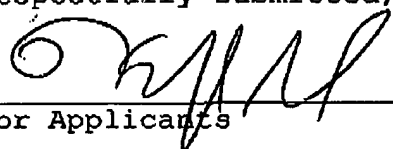
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In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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